



How to See

KYOTO & NARA

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CONTENTS

	page
KYOTO	2
Places of Interest	3
Access to Kyoto	10
Transportation in Kyoto	10
Ticket & Information Offices	12
Hotels & Inns	12
Restaurants	13
Shopping	14
Cabaret & Night Club	15
Amusements	15
Museum & Art Gallery	16
Public Offices	16
Banks	16
International Organizations	17
Overseas Telephone & Telegram	
Service	17
Annual Events	18
NARA	24
Places of Interest	25
Access to Nara	29
Transportation in Nara	29
Ticket & Information Offices	29
Hotel & Inns	30
Shopping	30
Public Offices	31
Annual Events	31

Cover picture by Riichiro Kawashima

KYOTO

Kyoto, a "must-see" for all visitors to Japan, is a city rich in historic associations and legendary lore.

This city was the capital of the country for more than ten centuries, from 794 to 1868 A.D. Imposing shrines and temples, and palaces with elaborately designed gardens attest to its glory and splendor in those bygone days.

In all, Kyoto has over two hundred Shinto shrines and some fifteen hundred Buddhist temples. Of the latter, thirty are the headquarters of different sects of Buddhism.

Kyoto is also a city of festivals. Colorful fetes, some gay and others solemn and mystical, but all with a tradition of several centuries, fill Kyoto's calendar from the New Year to the year-end.

But Kyoto today is not a mere repository of the relics of the civilization of old Japan, a withered flower that has nothing but its past beauty to boast of. With a population of over 1,200,000, it is the fourth largest city in Japan, and one of the country's most important producing centers of fine silk fabrics, embroidery work, porcelain and lacquer ware. It is also the educational center of western Japan, and is well provided with excellent hotel and transportation facilities. The present city of Kyoto still benefits from the



original plan of its streets and boulevards which were laid out, more than 1,100 years ago, in a checkered design in the most modern manner.

The climate in and around Kyoto is mild, and the mean temperatures in Fahrenheit for the four seasons are: spring (April) 54°, summer (August) 79°, fall (October) 60°, winter (January) 37°.

PLACES OF INTEREST

(in alphabetical order)

Chion-in Temple is one of the largest temples in Japan, the grounds covering an area of more than 36 acres. The present buildings were mostly built in the period from 1619 to 1641 with the support of the Tokugawa Shogunate. Its two-story front gate, constructed in 1619, is considered the most imposing of all the temple gates in this country. The main hall was erected in 1633, and the lines and gentle slopes of its magnificent roof are simple and impressive. The corridor behind the main hall is so constructed that at every step the floor emits a sound resembling the song of the *uguisu* (Japanese bush warbler).

Ginkakuji ("Silver Pavilion") is the popular name of Jishoji Temple. The original building was erected in 1483 as a place of retirement of an Ashikaga Shogun, but on his death it was converted into a Buddhist temple. The pavilion, a two-story structure designated as a National Treasure, is so named because of the Shogun's original intention to cover its whole interior with silver foil. This intention was never carried out, but the name has remained. The garden of this pavilion was laid out in 1485, and is rich in exquisite beauty and delicacy of design.

Gion Machi, lying between Shijo Bridge and Maruyama Park, constitutes with its numerous side-streets a very popular amusement quarter in Kyoto. On one side-street there stands the Kaburenjo Theater in which the colorful Miyako Odori or Cherry Dance is performed annually in spring.

Heian Shrine was built in 1895 to commemorate the 1,100th anniversary of the founding of this ancient capital, and is dedicated to the Emperor Kammu (737-806), founder of Kyoto, and also to the Emperor Komei (1831-1866), father of the Emperor Meiji. Most of the shrine buildings are modeled on a reduced scale of the first Imperial Palace built in 794. This shrine has a very beautiful



The Gold Pavilion restored to its former glory

Japanese garden in the rear, well known for its drooping cherry and iris flowers.

Higashi Honganji Temple, a magnificent Buddhist temple near Kyoto Station, was established in 1602 under the sponsorship of Ieyasu, the first Tokugawa Shogun. The temple structures were destroyed by fire four times, and the present buildings date from 1895.

Kamo Shrines at Shimogamo and Kamigamo are famous for the Aoi Matsuri or Hollyhock Festival held annually on May 15. The origin of the festival is traced back to the 6th century, when it was performed to propitiate the deities of the shrines, whose supposed anger was evinced by great storms throughout the country.

Kinkakuji ("Gold Pavilion") is the popular name of Rokuonji Temple. Nestling in a thick forest at the foot of Kinugasayama Hill in the northwest part of the city, the present pavilion was completed in October, 1955, reviving exactly the grand appearance of the original building which was erected in the 14th century and destroyed by fire in 1950. The beautiful garden surrounding the pavilion still

remains to attest to the refined and artistic life of the nobles in the feudal days.

Kiyomizu Temple was founded in 805 and is dedicated to the Eleven-headed Kannon (Goddess of Mercy), whose wooden statue is registered as an Important Cultural Property. The present buildings, mostly dating from 1633, are scattered on a hillside. The main hall, designated as a National Treasure, stands on a cliff with a wide wooden veranda in front, and commands a fine view of Kyoto City. The whole glen below this veranda is profusely dotted with maple trees, which present a beautiful scene in autumn.

Kyoto National Museum was erected in 1895 by the Imperial Household as a depository for art objects and other treasures possessed by Buddhist temples, Shinto shrines and individuals in Kyoto. The exhibits include some 1,000 rare and valuable works of art, historical and religious objects.

Kyoto University, founded in 1897, is the second oldest national university in Japan. It comprises the colleges of literature, education, law, economics, science, medicine, engineering and agriculture. The three-story Yukawa Memorial Institute was completed in 1952 to perpetuate the achievements of Dr. Hideki Yukawa who won the 1949 Nobel Prize in physics.

Maruyama Park, 24 acres in area, lies at the foot of Higashiyama Hill close to Chion-in Temple and Yasaka Shrine. One of the attractions of the park is its many cherry trees. When the trees are in full bloom, they are illuminated at night, forming one of Kyoto's peculiar charms in the springtime.

Nijo Castle was originally built in 1603 by the first Tokugawa Shogun, Ieyasu, to serve as his residence when he visited Kyoto. The buildings of this castle are National Treasures, chosen because of their splendid architectural beauty and gorgeous interior decorations.

Nishi Honganji Temple was founded in 1272 at Higashiyama, and moved to the present site in 1591. Of the present buildings, the Main Hall and the Founder's Hall date respectively from 1760 and 1636. This temple possesses several National Treasures including Hiunkaku Pavilion. The three-story pavilion, erected in the 16th century, stands by itself in the southeast corner of the temple precincts. It is celebrated for its unique architectural style and the paintings by master artists which decorate each floor.

Okazaki Park was opened as a public park in 1904. In the park there are the Kyoto Municipal Commercial Museum, the Kyoto Prefectural Central Library, the Public Hall, the Kyoto Municipal Art Gallery, and the Municipal Zoological Gardens.

Old Imperial Palace has been repeatedly destroyed by fire, the present buildings dating from 1855. The buildings, though not brilliantly decorated, are very fascinating in their noble simplicity. The original site of the palace built in 794 by the Emperor Kammu was in the northwestern quarter of the city, but the present site was selected after the fire of 1788.

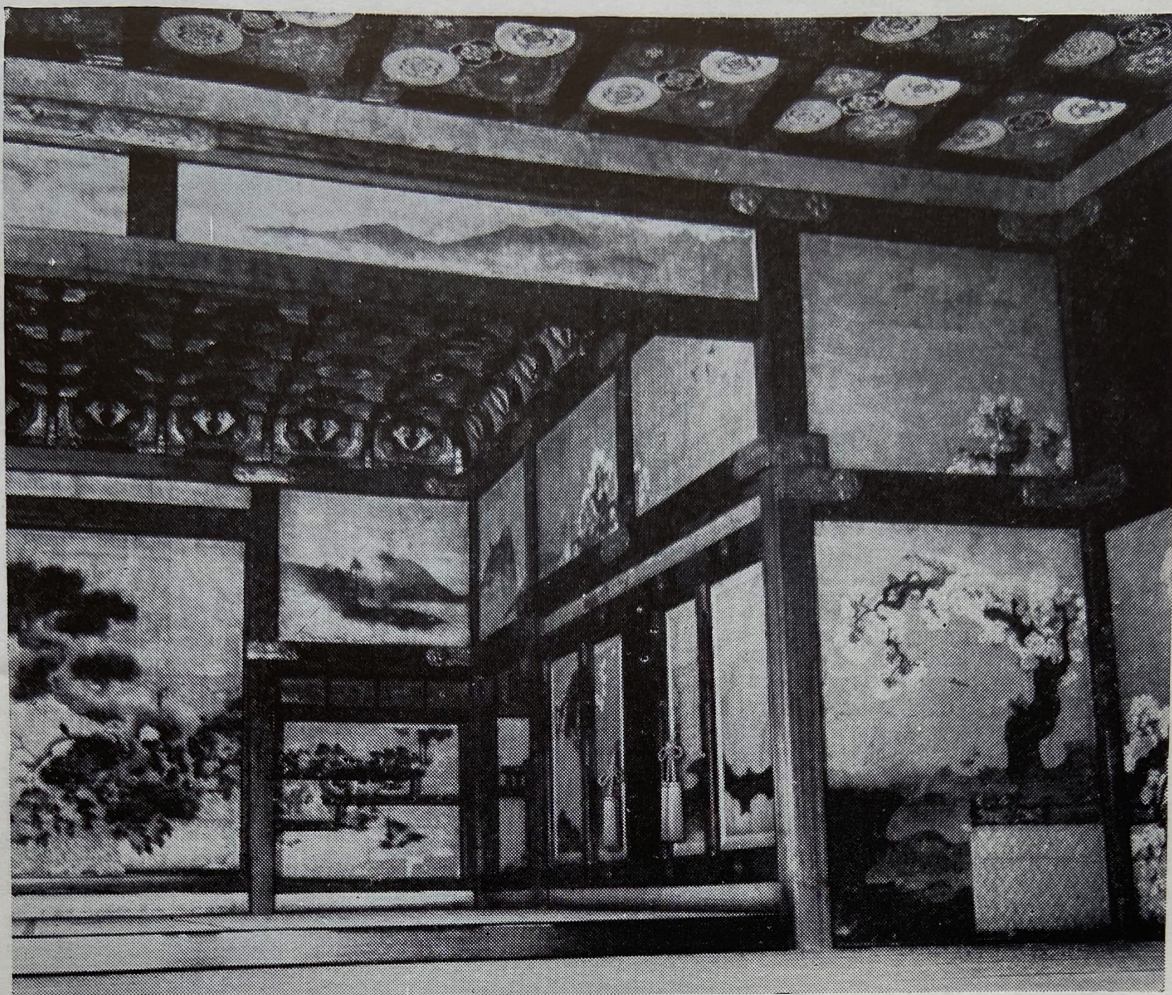
Sanjusangendo, or the Hall of Thirty-three *ken*, is so called from the 33 spaces between the pillars in the hall. The present hall was built in 1266 and is designated as a National Treasure. It is well known for its wooden image of the Thousand-handed Goddess Kannon, the principal object of worship and a National Treasure. The Kannon is accompanied by the 28 faithful followers and 1,001 smaller images of the same Goddess, all of which are of rare artistic value.

Shijo Street, running east to west in the center of the city, is a broad and bustling thoroughfare flanked by many attractive stores. The Daimaru, Takashimaya and Mitsukoshi Department Stores are all on this street.

Shinkyogoku is the most frequented amusement quarter in Kyoto. The streets here are lined with a number of theaters, movie-houses, dance halls, restaurants and tea-rooms. At night, especially, the scene is very gay.



Heian Shrine and its rear garden in winter



A luxurious chamber in Nijo Castle

Yasaka Shrine is commonly called Gion Shrine. The present buildings, with the exception of the older two-story west gate, were erected in 1654 in the ancient residential style. The Gion Festival of this shrine which is held for nine days from July 16 annually is probably the most noteworthy festival of Kyoto.

In the Suburbs

Arashiyama, 23 minutes from Shijo Omiya Station by electric car, is an extremely beautiful spot believed to contain within its limited area all the beauties of nature. The charm of the place lies in the varied vegetation of the hillside facing the Oi River, large pines being interspersed with innumerable cherry and maple trees which in their respective seasons make the place exquisitely beautiful.

Lake Biwa, so called because in shape it resembles the musical instrument of that name, is 146 miles in circumference and 261 square miles in area. From Hamaotsu, a part of Otsu City which is



Arashiyama, a scenic spot of serene beauty

6.2 miles, or 20 minutes from Kyoto by train, a regular pleasure boat leaves daily for a 7-hour cruise around scenic spots of the lake.

Mt. Hiei (altitude: 2,782 feet) soaring to the northeast of Kyoto, is best ascended by taking the train from Demachiyanagi to Yase at the foot of the mountain, then by cable car up to Shimeigadake, the highest point of the mountain, where a magnificent view of Kyoto, Lake Biwa and adjacent country can be obtained. On the summit there is Enryakuji Temple which, from the historical as well as religious standpoint, is one of the most important temples in Japan.

Hozu Rapids offer a thrilling experience to those who shoot them down by boat in about one hour and a half along their 8-mile section between Kameoka and Arashiyama which winds through gorges and narrow valleys. The best way to reach the starting point from Kyoto is to drive by motorcar direct to the boat-house at Hozunohama. Each of the shooting boats is manipulated dexterously by three to five boatmen, all having seven to thirty-five years of experience in the trade.

Katsura Imperial Villa is situated in the southwestern suburbs of Kyoto. Built for an Imperial prince, the house and garden are in

quiet, beautiful surroundings, with views of Arashiyama and Kameyama Hills. It is generally said that they were designed by Kobori Enshu, a master of the tea ceremony and an architect of the most refined taste, and represent the highest achievement of his art. The work commenced in 1590 on a small scale, which was later increased, and the whole is an admirable example of Japanese landscape gardening.

Uji, reached from Kyoto in less than 30 minutes by train, is noted for its production of green tea of good quality, and also for the famous Byodoin ("Phoenix Hall") which is the best existing example of religious architecture in the 11th century.

Landscape Gardens

(Advance application is necessary for visit to gardens marked with an asterisk)

Daitokuji Temple: Murasakino Daitokujicho, Kamigyo-ku.

Ginkakuji Temple ("Silver Pavilion"): Ginkakujicho, Sakyo-ku.

*Katsura Imperial Villa**: Katsura Misono, Ukyo-ku.

Kinkakuji Temple ("Gold Pavilion"): Kinkakujicho, Kamigyo-ku.

Murin-an: Awataguchi Toriicho, Sakyo-ku.

Nanzenji Temple: Nanzenji Fukuchicho, Sakyo-ku.

Nijo Castle: Nijo-dori Horikawa Nishi-iru, Nakagyo-ku.



The garden of the Katsura Imperial Villa

Nishi Honganji Temple: Honganji Monzencho, Shimogyo-ku.
*Nomura Garden**: Nanzenji Shimogawaramachi, Sakyo-ku.
Ryoanji Temple: Ryoanji Goryonoshitacho, Ukyo-ku.
Saihoji Temple ("Moss Temple"): Matsuo Jingatanicho, Ukyo-ku.
Samboin Temple: in the Daigoji Temple grounds, Daigo Higashi-
 ojicho, Fushimi-ku.
Shoren-in Temple: Awataguchi, Higashiyama-ku.
*Shugakuin Detached Palace**: Shugakuin, Sakyo-ku.
Tenryuji Temple: Saga Tenryuji Susukinobabacho, Ukyo-ku.

ACCESS TO KYOTO

By National Railways train:

<i>From</i>	<i>By</i>	<i>Time required</i>	<i>Fare</i>
Tokyo	limited express	6 hrs. 52 min.	¥7,440 (1st class) 4,200 (2nd class)
Yokohama	limited express	6 hrs. 27 min.	¥7,280 (1st class) 4,120 (2nd class)
Nagoya	limited express	1 hr. 57 min.	¥3,880 (1st class) 2,300 (2nd class)
Osaka	electric train	35 min.	¥ 240 (2nd class)
Kobe	electric train	1 hr. 5 min.	¥ 440 (2nd class)

By private railways:

Osaka (Temmabashi Sta.)	Keihan Electric Railway	42 min.	¥ 90 (mono-class)
Osaka (Tenjimbashi Sta.)	Keihanshin Kyuko Railway	36 min.	¥ 90 (mono-class)

By motorcar:

Within one hour from Osaka, two and a half hours from Kobe.

By plane (Japan Air Lines):

1 hour 50 minutes (Fare: ¥12,600) from Tokyo to Itami Airport.
 Osaka. From the airport, 1½ hours' drive to Kyoto.

TRANSPORTATION IN KYOTO

STREETCARS & MOTORBUSES

Municipal streetcar and motorbus lines run throughout the city.
 The streetcar fare is ¥13 per person per trip regardless of the distance. The bus fare differs according to the distance covered.

For all types of taxicabs an extra fee is charged for waiting, according to the length of the parking time.

REGULAR SIGHTSEEING BUS SERVICE

For the convenience of foreign visitors to Kyoto, three bus tours are in regular operation to make a 4-hour round of the city's major tourist points: morning tour (daily excepting Sundays and holidays), afternoon tour (daily) and evening tour (daily). On these tours the buses leave Miyako Hotel at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.; Kyoto Hotel at 9:15 a.m., 1:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.; Kyoto Station Hotel at 9:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., respectively. An English-speaking guide accompanies each tour. The fare is ¥700 per person per tour.

TO POINTS OUTSIDE THE CITY

Several private companies maintain electric railway services from Kyoto to tourist points on the outskirts of the city, such as Arashiyama, Uji, Hamaotsu (on Lake Biwa) and Kurama. There is also a cable line up Mt. Hiei as far as Shimeigadake.

TICKET & INFORMATION OFFICES

Japan Travel Bureau (JTB)

In front of Kyoto Station. Tel. (5) 8407, 8480.

Kyoto Municipal Information Office

Opposite the west entrance of Kyoto Station. Tel. (5) 8010, 8060.

HOTELS & INNS

HOTELS (members of Japan Hotel Association)

Kyoto Hotel (capacity, 125): Kawaramachi-dori Oike. Tel. (3) 5300-9.

Kyoto Station Hotel (capacity, 124): in front of Kyoto Station. Tel. (5) 8891-3.

Miyako Hotel (capacity, 142): Awataguchi, Higashiyama-ku. Tel. (7) 0040-3.

JAPANESE INNS (members of Federation of Japanese Tourist Hotels)

Hamamura: Okazaki Hoshojimachi, Sakyo-ku. Tel. (7) 0463, 1933.

Hiiragiya: Fuyacho Oike-dori Kado. Tel. (2) 1136-9.

Kaneiwaro Bekkan: Kiyamachi Gojo Agarui. Tel. (5) 5010, 5925.

Kinta: Yanaginobamba Shijo Sagaru. Tel. (5) 1429, 4052.
Kyoyamato: Minami Masuyacho. Tel. (6) 0124, 1325.
Matsukichi: Gokomachi Sanjo Agaru. Tel. (2) 7016-8.
Onoya: Kiyamachi Nijo Sagaru. Tel. (3) 1810-1.
Seikoro: Ton-yamachi Gojo Sagaru. Tel. (6) 0771, 4076.
Sumiya: Fuyacho Sanjo Sagaru. Tel. (2) 2188.
Tawaraya: Fuyacho Anegakoji. Tel. (2) 2685-6.

RESTAURANTS

JAPANESE FOOD

Typical Kyoto cuisine

Minoko: Gion Shimogawara. Tel. (6) 0328, 1329.

Nakamuraro: Gion Toriimaecho. Tel. (6) 0016-8.

Sukiyaki

Iroha: Pontocho Shijo Kado. Tel. (2) 3334.

Kanoko: Saiseiki Shijo Sagaru. Tel. (5) 2081.

Mishimatei: Sanjo Teramachi Sagaru. Tel. (2) 0003.

Tempura

Karafune: Gion Hanamikoji. Tel. (6) 2808, 3772.

Kibun: Kiyamachi Shijo Sagaru. Tel. (5) 4769.

Mizudaki (chicken cooked in broth)

Sato: Sanjo Karasuma Higashi-iru. Tel. (2) 3883.

Toriiwaro: Saiseiki Shijo Sagaru. Tel. (5) 6001.

Unagi (broiled eels)

Izumoya: Shijo Ohashi Nishi-zume. Tel. (2) 4347.

Kandagawa: Saiseiki Shijo Sagaru. Tel. (5) 1832.

CHINESE FOOD

Hamamura Honten: Takoyakushi Muromachi Nishi-iru. Tel. (2) 0650.

Hiun: Kiyamachi Sanjo Agaru. Tel. (3) 0253.

WESTERN FOOD

Alaska (general): Asahi Bldg., Kawaramachi Sanjo Agaru. Tel. (3) 7200.

Fujiya (general): Kawaramachi Sanjo Kado. Tel. (2) 2524.

Ichiyoken (French cuisine): Kiyamachi Shijo Agaru. Tel. (2) 4292.

Java (general): Kawaramachi Shijo Agaru Higashi-iru. Tel. (2) 0441.

*K. Yokoyama & Co.** (curios, art objects): Nawate Shimbashi
Agaru. Tel. (6) 0327.

CABARET & NIGHT CLUB

CABARET

Den-en: Kawaramachi Shijo Sagaru. Tel. (5) 4627.

NIGHT CLUB

Prunier: Gion Hanamikoji. Tel. (6) 0440, 2513.

AMUSEMENTS

THEATER

Minamiza Theater: Shijo Ohashi Higashi-zume.

NOH STAGES

Kongo Noh Stage: Shijo Muromachi Agaru.

Oe Noh Stage: Oshikoji Yanaginobamba Higashi-iru.

CINEMA HOUSES

Asahi Kaikan: Kawaramachi Sanjo Agaru.

S.Y. Kyoei: Shinkyogoku Shijo Agaru.



A typical draper's shop in Kyoto

Kyoto Theater: Kawaramachi Sanjo Sagaru.
Kyoto Takarazuka Theater: Kawaramachi Sanjo Sagaru.
Palace Theater: Kawaramachi Shijo Sagaru.

MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

Kyoto Municipal Art Gallery: in Okazaki Park. Open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed from December 29 to 31.
Kyoto National Museum: Chayamachi, Higashiyama-ku. Open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (April-September), from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (October-March). Closed on Mondays and from December 26 to January 4.

PUBLIC OFFICES

Kyoto Office of Imperial Household Agency: in the Imperial Park.
Kyoto Chamber of Commerce & Industry: Karasuma-dori Ebisugawa Agaru.
Kyoto Foreign Trade Institute: Shijo Tominokoji Nishi-iru.
Kyoto Municipal Office: Kawaramachi Oike.
Kyoto Prefectural Office: Shimodachiuri Kamanza.

BANKS

(handling foreign exchange)

Bank of Kobe: Shijo Fuyacho Nishi. Tel. (2) 7306.
Bank of Kyoto: Karasuma Matsubara Agaru. Tel. (5) 8651.
Daiichi Bank: Karasuma Sanjo Sagaru. Tel. (2) 1121.
Daiwa Bank: Shijo Takakura Kado. Tel. (2) 1141.
Fuji Bank: Shijo Karasuma Higashi. Tel. (2) 7291.
Kyowa Bank: Sanjo Fuyacho Higashi. Tel. (2) 3161.
Mitsubishi Bank: Shijo Karasuma Higashi. Tel. (2) 7161.
Mitsui Bank: Shijo Karasuma Higashi. Tel. (2) 7116.
Nippon Kangyo Bank: Karasuma Nijo Sagaru. Tel. (3) 5383.
Sanwa Bank: Shijo Karasuma Kado. Tel. (2) 1161.
Sumitomo Bank: Karasuma Sanjo Sagaru. Tel. (2) 2111.
Tokai Bank: Shijo Muromachi Nishi-iru. Tel. (2) 7061.



Rinsing dyed fabrics in the waters of Katsura River

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Cultural Center: Higashinotoin Rokkaku Sagaru. Tel. (2) 6780.

United Nations Association of Japan (Kyoto Chapter): in the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce & Industry Bldg., Karasuma Ebisugawa Agaru. Tel. (3) 0080.

Y.M.C.A.: Sanjo Yanaginobamba. Tel. (2) 0910.

Y.W.C.A.: Muromachi Demizu Agaru. Tel. (4) 2580.

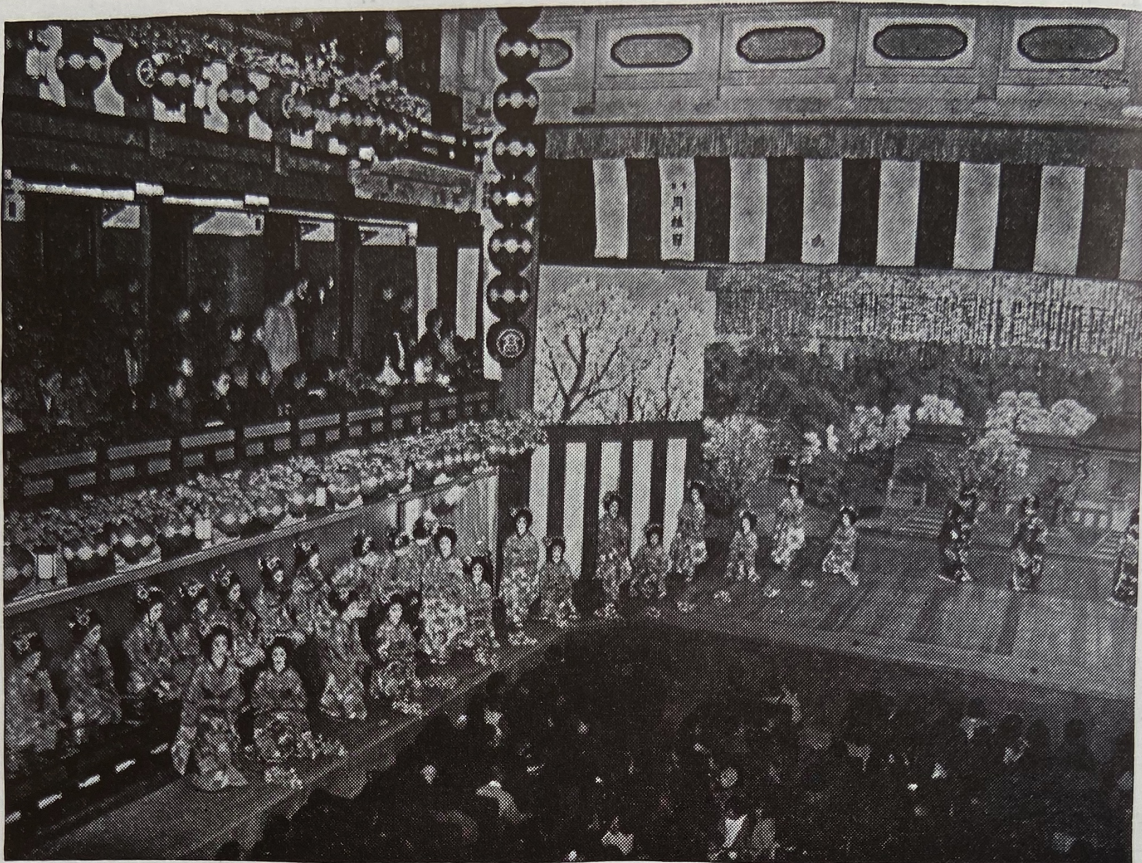
OVERSEAS TELEPHONE & TELEGRAM SERVICE

International telephone and telegram service is available at the following offices of the Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co. (Japan Overseas Radio & Cable System)

Kyoto Overseas Telephone Office: Karasuma Anegakoji. Tel. (2) 6800.

Kyoto Telegraph Office: Shijo Nishinotoin. Tel. (2) 7561.

Shichijo Telegraph Office: Shiokoji Karasuma. Tel. (5) 4519.



A scene from the annual "Cherry Dance"

ANNUAL EVENTS

(dates subject to change)

JANUARY

1st: *Okera Mairi* at Yasaka Shrine is held at daybreak. A large number of worshippers visit the shrine, seeking to bring home the sacred fire kindled in the shrine, with which to cook the first meal of the year. The custom is believed to help ward off illness during the coming year.

25th: *The first Tenjin Festival* is held at Tenjin Shrine, Kitano.

FEBRUARY

2nd or 3rd: *Tsuina Shiki* (Festival for Driving Away Evil Spirits) at Yoshida Shrine, Sakyo-ku.

3rd or 4th: *Setsubun Festival* at Yoshida and Kamigamo Shrines, and at Mibu and Kurama Temples.

MARCH

15th: *Nehan-e*, a Buddhist service held in memory of Buddha, who

died on this day, at Tofukuji Temple, Higashiyama-ku, and Seiryoji Temple, Ukyo-ku.

APRIL

1st to Mid-May: *Miyako Odori* (Cherry Dance) is performed by a galaxy of dancers in colorful kimono at the Kaburenjo Theater at Gion.

First or Second Sunday: *Senshoku Matsuri* (Textile Festival) is held with solemn rites in honor of the gods and goddesses of weaving. The chief attraction of this festival is the procession of girls attired in beautiful costumes representing various periods in Japanese history.

15th to Mid-May: *Kamogawa Odori*, consisting of dances and dance-plays, is staged at the Kaburenjo Theater, Pontocho.

21st-30th: *Mibu Kyogen* (medieval pantomime farces) at Mibu Temple. During this period performances are given every day.

MAY

15th: *Aoi Matsuri* (Hollyhock Festival) of Kamigamo and Shimo-gamo Shrines features a magnificent pageant which is a colorful reproduction of the Imperial procession as it paid homage to the



The Hollyhock Festival of the Kamo Shrines



A procession of floats decorated in fantastic

shrines in ancient days. On this occasion, the leaves of the hollyhock are offered to the gods and goddesses enshrined in the two shrines, and all the paraphernalia used for the occasion are decorated with the leaves.

Third Sunday: *Shuyu Sai* (Boat Festival) of Kurumazaki Shrine at Saga. On this day the Oi River reproduces vividly the serene atmosphere of the Heian Period (794–1185), when the Emperor and his courtiers went on frequent pleasure trips to the Oi River to view the fine scenery of Arashiyama, and floated down the river on gaily decorated boats.

JUNE

1st–2nd: *Takigi Noh* (Torchlight Performance of Noh Plays) on the stage in the precincts of Heian Shrine. By the light of kindled fagots, Noh dramas are presented in the open after dark.

12th to August 31st: The ancient sport of *Cormorant Fishing* is demonstrated every evening around Tonoshima, an islet in the Uji River at Uji.

20th: *Bamboo-Cutting Ceremony* at Kurama Temple. This spectacular ceremony is conducted in the main hall of the temple.



design is the main feature of the Gion Festival

Two groups of four men dressed as monk soldiers rush in with eight big bamboo poles representing big serpents, and cut the poles into three parts. The ceremony originated from a legend that once when the founder of this temple was praying, a great serpent appeared and was about to do him harm but he killed it with divine help.

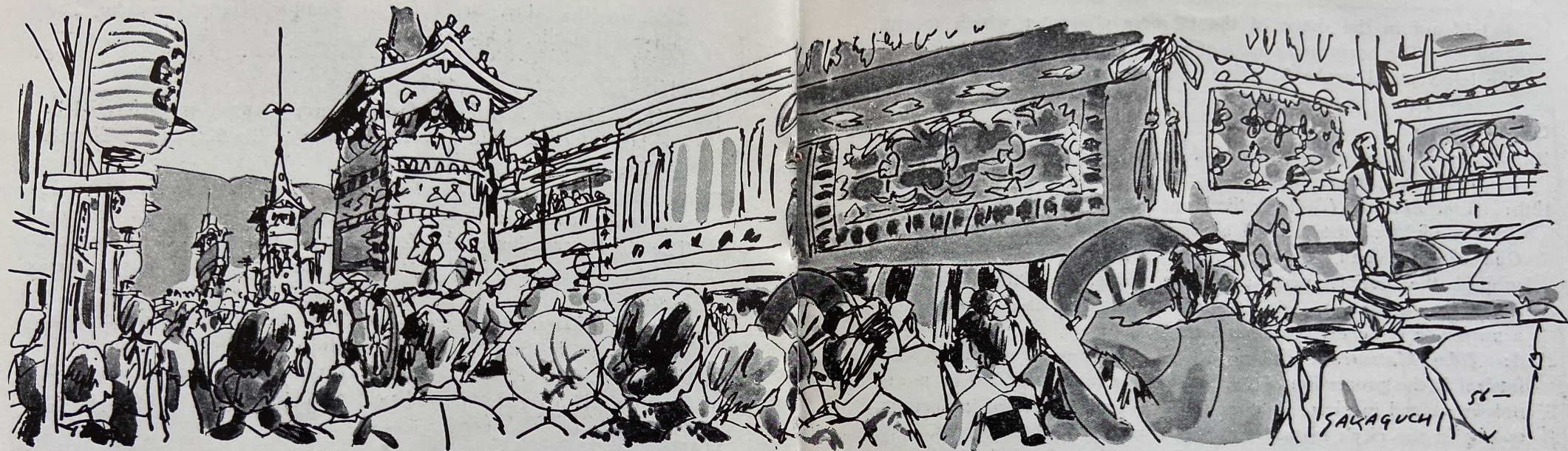
JULY

10th to August 30th: *Cormorant Fishing* is demonstrated every evening at Arashiyama.

16th-24th: *Gion Matsuri* of Yasaka Shrine is one of the most famous festivals in Kyoto. This festival dates back to the 9th century, when the head priest of the famous Yasaka Shrine let a large number of men and women form a procession to escort the decorated shrine-cars as a means to seek the protection of the gods against the pestilence that was then ravaging the city.

AUGUST

16th: *Bonfire on Mt. Nyoigadake*. On the hillside of Nyoigadake, a huge spectacular bonfire is lighted in the evening. The bonfire



A procession of floats decorated in fantastic design is the main feature of the Gion Festival

is laid out in the shape of the Chinese character which means "large." The horizontal stroke of the character measures 230 feet, the left vertical stroke 510 feet and the right 410 feet.

OCTOBER

10th-30th: Autumn performances of *Kamogawa Odori* at the Kaburenjo Theater, Pontocho.

12th: *Ushi Matsuri* (Bull Festival) at Koryuji Temple, Uzumasa. On the night of the festival a man in white, impersonating the God Madara, and accompanied by followers, rides on a bull around the temple precincts three times, and then observes a religious ceremony, which partly consists in the chanting of a prayer in some archaic language.

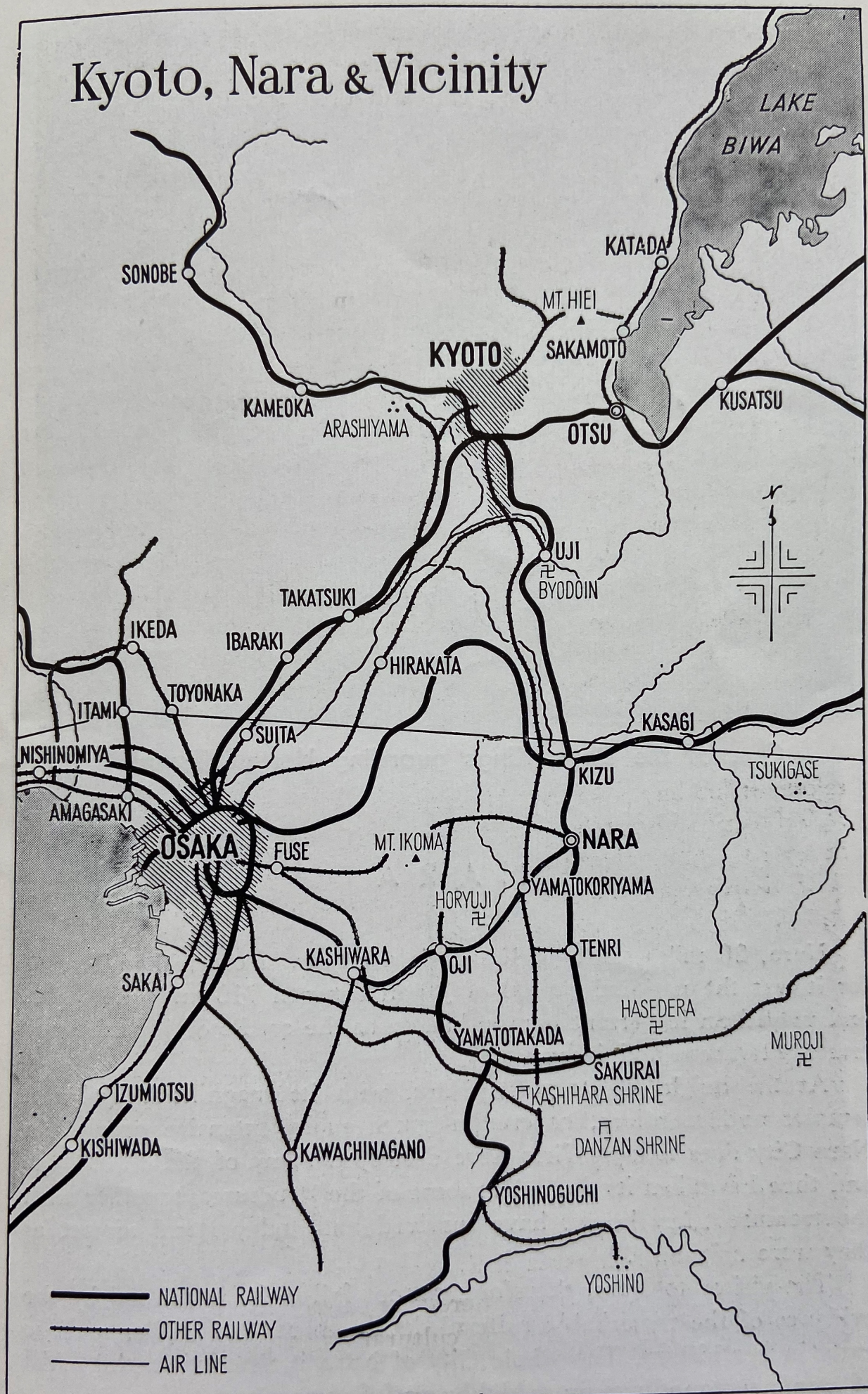
22nd: *Jidai Matsuri* at Heian Shrine. The main event of this festival is the procession of various groups totaling 2,000 or more people, attired in picturesque costumes representative of important epochs in the city's history covering a period of 1,100 years.

22nd: *Fire Festival* at Kurama. On the evening of this festival day, an endless procession of worshippers, each shouldering a burning torch, passes between two long rows of torches which form a path leading to Yuki Shrine. The whole district literally turns into a sea of fire.



Heian Shrine on the day of the "Jidai" Festival

Kyoto, Nara & Vicinity





One of the Deva Kings guarding Horyuji Temple

N A R A

Nara, 26 miles south of Kyoto, is a city even older than Kyoto, for it was the national capital of Japan between 710 and 784 A.D., and played an important part in history as the cradle of Japan's arts, crafts, literature and industries.

At the height of its glory, Nara, with its magnificent palaces, temples and mansions, covered a much more extensive area than Nara City does today. Fires have destroyed many of these buildings and time has taken its due. But some of the structures, together with the treasures they house, have survived and today stand almost as they were originally.

The visitor to Nara, therefore, cannot fail to be impressed by the evidence of the remarkable cultural development that Japan made so early in her history. The whole City of Nara is situated in the midst of scenic surroundings, in a highly restful atmosphere.

PLACES OF INTEREST

(in alphabetical order)

Kasuga Shrine is one of the most famous and oldest Shinto shrines in Japan, founded in 768. The shrine buildings, painted in bright vermilion, are celebrated for their fine architecture and enchanting setting. Some 3,000 lanterns, about half of which stand in the shrine precincts and the rest hang from the eaves of the buildings, are offerings from devotees to the deities enshrined. Some of them date as far back as 1323.

Kasuga Wakamiya Shrine is dedicated to a son of a deity enshrined in Kasuga Shrine, and so it is called Kasuga Wakamiya or Young Kasuga Shrine. The shrine is said to have been founded in 1135.

Kofukuji Temple was originally the tutelary temple of the Fujiwaras who held the political hegemony of the State from the 9th century to the beginning of the 11th century. The temple was once so prosperous as to have as many as 175 buildings under its management. The principal structures existing now are the Five-story



Kasuga Shrine founded in the 8th century

Pagoda built in 1426, the Eastern Main Hall dating from 1415, the Central Main Hall from 1819, the Nan-endo from 1741, the Three-story Pagoda from 1148, and the Hokuendo from 1208.

Nara National Museum contains a valuable collection of ancient works of art, particularly those of the Nara Period (645-794). Open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (March-October), from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (November-February). Closed on the first and third Mondays of each month, and from December 26 to January 3.

Nara Park is popularly known as Deer Park because of the more than 400 tame deer roaming in it. The park covers an area of about 1,250 acres and is finely wooded with various species of trees.

Sarusawa Pond, below Kofukuji Temple, with the shadow of the five-story pagoda of the temple reflected on its surface, has long been known as one of the most popular sights in Nara.

Todaiji Temple was founded in 745, and is well known for its chief object of worship, the Daibutsu, a colossal Buddhist image. The Daibutsu is the largest bronze statue in the world. It was cast in the middle of the 8th century. The statue represents Buddha Vairocana in the act of preaching a sermon. Its measurements are:



The Great Buddha, over 53 feet in height



The Hall of the Great Buddha, Todaiji Temple

Height including pedestal	71 ft. 6 in.
Height without pedestal	53 ft. 6 in.
Length of face	16 ft.
Length of eye	3 ft. 9 in.
Height of nose	1 ft. 6 in.
Length of mouth	3 ft. 7 in.
Length of palm	6 ft. 5 in.
Length of thumb	5 ft. 3 in.
Number of curled locks of hair	966
Whole weight	500 metric tons

The Hall of the Daibutsu is also the largest wooden structure in the world, measuring about 160 feet in height, 187 feet in length and 166 feet in width. The present hall dates from 1708. Among other principal buildings of the temple are the Nigatsudo and Sangatsudo Halls, the Belfry, the Shosoin Depository and the Nandaimon Gate.



The Hall of Dreams at Horyuji Temple

In the Suburbs

Horyuji Temple is one of the most magnificent depositories of the finest architectural, sculptural and pictorial art objects of Japan. The temple is near Horyuji Station which is an 18-minute train ride from Nara. It was founded in 607 by Prince Shotoku, Regent of the Empress-Regnant Suiko. The temple consists of two sections, namely, the Toin or East Temple and the Saiin or West Temple. Altogether it comprises about forty buildings, some of which have been ascertained as the oldest wooden structures extant in the world. The most noteworthy of the Horyuji buildings are the *Nandaimon* (South Great Gate), the *Kondo* (Main Hall), housing the celebrated bronze images of the Shaka-Trinity and many other priceless art objects, the *Shoryoin* (Sacred Spirit Hall), the *Five-storied Pagoda* which has the identical timbers that were used in its construction in 607, the *Kodo* (Lecture Hall) dating from 991, and the Yumedono (Hall of Dreams), a beautiful octagonal structure built in 739 and dedicated to Prince Shotoku. All these buildings are registered as National Treasures.

Toshodaiji Temple, near Nishinokyo Station on the Kinki Nippon Railway, is the most valuable of the surviving 8th century structures. The chief object of worship in its main hall is the dry-lacquer statue of Vairocana, 8 feet high, sitting on a pedestal.

Yakushiji Temple, near Toshodaiji Temple, was founded in 680, and is well known for its beautiful three-story pagoda, 115 feet high, and bronze images of Yakushi Trinity which were completed in 696.

ACCESS TO NARA

By National Railways train:

<i>From</i>	<i>By</i>	<i>Time required</i>	<i>Fare</i>
Kyoto	ordinary train	1 hr. 2 min.	¥100 (3rd class only)
Osaka (Minatomachi Sta.)	semi-express	38 min.	¥410 (2nd class)

By private railways:

Kyoto	Nara Electric Railway	35 min.	¥100 (mono-class)
Osaka (Uehommachi Sta.)	Kinki Nippon Railway	30 min.	¥ 90 (mono-class)

By motorcar:

Within one hour from either Kyoto or Osaka.

TRANSPORTATION IN NARA

Taxicabs for sightseeing may be hired for ¥700 for one hour or less within the city limits, with an extra charge for the suburbs. A round trip by *jinrikisha* (rickshaw) of the principal places of interest usually takes three hours and costs about ¥600.

TICKET & INFORMATION OFFICES

Japan Travel Bureau

In the Yurakukaikan Bldg. near Kintetsu Nara Station. Tel 2525, 4137.

Nara Municipal Information Offices

In front of National Railways Nara Station. Tel. 6359.

In front of Kintetsu Nara Station. Tel. 4989.

HOTEL & INNS

HOTEL (member of Japan Hotel Association)

Nara Hotel (capacity, 102): near Sarusawa Pond. Tel. 4101-2.

JAPANESE INNS (members of Federation of Japanese Tourist Hotels)

Kasuga Hotel: Noboriojimachi. Tel. 4031-3.

Uosa Ryokan: near Sarusawa Pond. Tel. 6035-7.

SHOPPING

Nara's special products are not many, but Nara ningyo (carved wooden dolls), writing brushes, Indian ink, lacquer and earthen ware, and articles made from deer horn are the popular tourist souvenirs of this city.

The main shopping districts are along Sanjo Street running straight from Nara Station to Nara Park and around Higashimuki and Mochiidono Streets which branch off from the former street.



The Water-Drawing Fete at Nigatsudo Hall

PUBLIC OFFICES

Nara Chamber of Commerce & Industry: Higashimuki-nakamachi.

Nara Municipal Office: Minami-handanakamachi.

Nara Prefectural Office: Noboriojimachi.

Nara Telegram Office: Sanjo-dori.

Nara Telephone Office: Sanjo-dori.

ANNUAL EVENTS

(dates subject to change)

JANUARY

15th: *Firing of Grass on Wakakusayama Hill.* In the evening, Wakakusayama Hill in Nara Park is set afire and fireworks are set off at the same time here and there on the slope. This festival reminds the Nara people of the historic burning of the turf on this hill which more than ten centuries ago marked the amicable end of a long dispute concerning the boundary of two major temples in Nara.

FEBRUARY

3rd or 4th: *Lantern Festival of Kasuga Shrine.* On the night of "Setsubun," the last day of winter by the lunar calendar, all the lanterns of the shrine, numbering over 3,000 in all, are lighted. Also many torches are kindled in the precincts. The sight of these illuminations viewed through the dark woods is really enchanting.

3rd or 4th: *Tsuina Shiki* (Festival for Driving Away Evil Spirits) on the night of "Setsubun" at Kofukuji Temple.

MARCH

1st-14th: *Water-Drawing Ceremony* of Nigatsudo Hall, Todaiji Temple. The principal object of this ceremony is to draw, at midnight on March 12, seven and a half bucketfuls of water from the "Holy Well" in the precincts of the temple. One portion of this water is kept in the temple, and the rest is distributed among the devotees who take it home as "Holy Water." The ceremony is also called "Otaimatsu" or Big Torches, for at midnight on March 12, eleven torches, measuring 25 to 30 feet in length, are lighted.

APRIL

1st-5th: *Hanae-Shiki* (Flower-Offering Ceremony) of Yakushiji Temple. The interior of the Main Hall is beautifully adorned with artificial flowers.

AUGUST

15th: *Lantern Festival* of Kasuga Shrine. All the lanterns of the shrine are lighted, as on the night of "Setsubun," with a most picturesque effect.

OCTOBER

Mid-October: *Deer Horn Cutting Festival*. All the deer in Nara Park have their horns cut. This traditional rite is done according to time-honored rules.

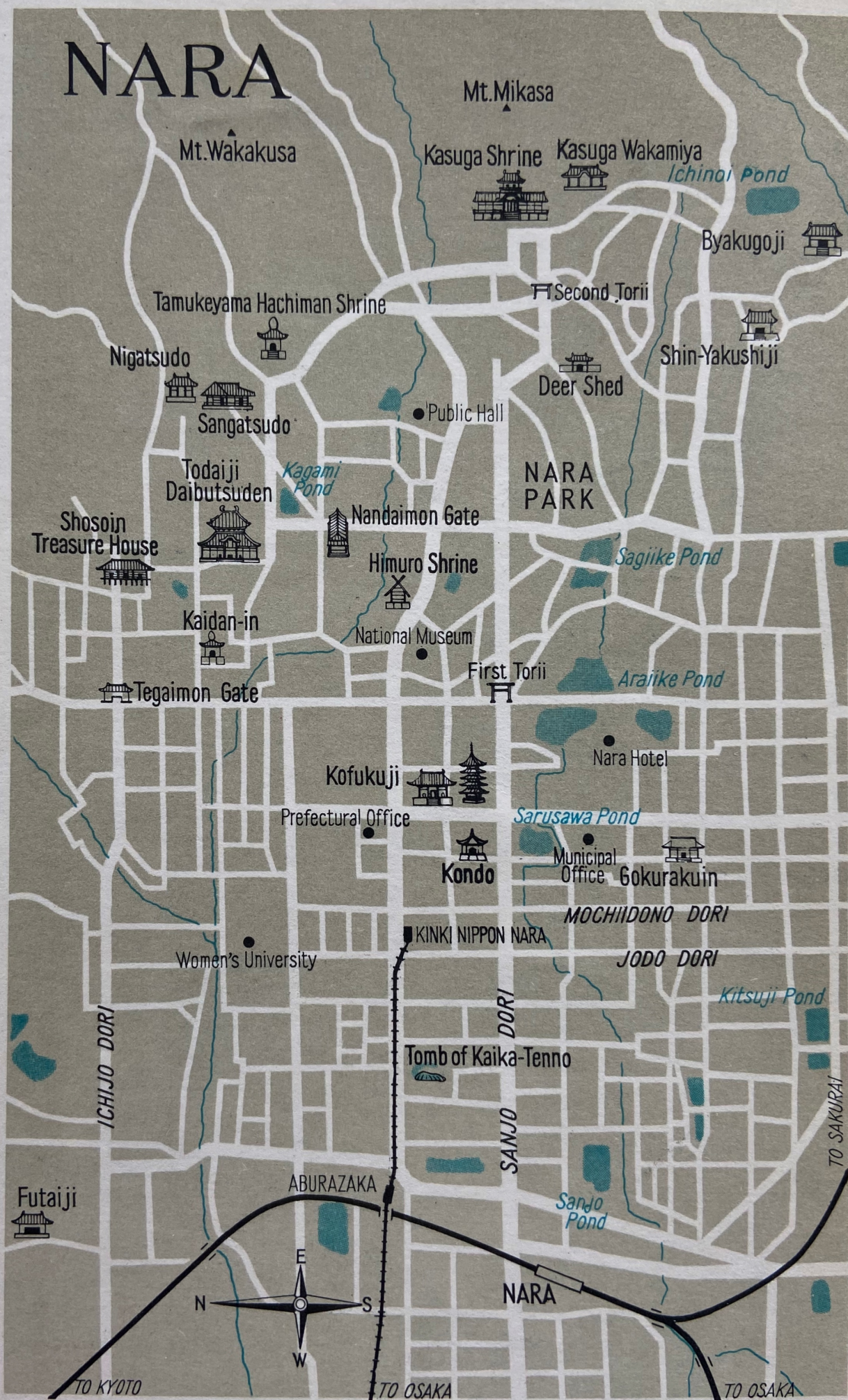
DECEMBER

17th: *On Matsuri* of Kasuga Wakamiya Shrine. One of the greatest celebrations in Nara, this festival is characterized by a long procession of people clad in ancient armor and costumes.



Tame deer welcome the visitors to Nara

NARA



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